

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Boyd et al. )  
Application No.: not yet assigned )  
Divisional of Serial No. 09/794,873 ) Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: March 19, 2004 )  
DEVICES AND APPARATUS FOR )  
TREATING A VERTEBRAL BODY ) March 19, 2004

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully submit the following preliminary amendment.

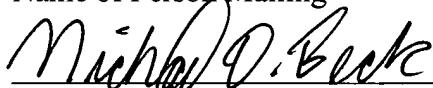
“Express mail” mailing label number EV 389959275 US

Date of Deposit March 19, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service “Express Mail Post Office to Addressee” service under 37 CFR §1. 10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Michael D. Beck

Name of Person Mailing



Signature of Person Mailing